

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: SB0018

Title: Reduce prison population to save general fund

Primary Sponsor: Chris Christiaens

Status: As Amended in Senate

Sponsor signature _____ Date _____

Chuck Swysgood, Budget Director _____ Date _____

Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY 2003 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2004 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2005 Difference</u>
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	0		

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
	X	Significant Local Gov. Impact		X	Technical Concerns
	X	Included in the Executive Budget	X		Significant Long-Term Impacts
	X	Dedicated Revenue Form Attached	X		Family Impact Form Attached

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The projected savings to the Department of Corrections is \$697,183 in fiscal year 2003.
2. Only non-violent offenders within 90 days of discharge would be eligible. No sexual or violent offenders eligible.
3. Weighted average daily rate based upon per diem at regionals and Shelby (\$48.72/day avg.).
4. Releases from Montana State Prison would be backfilled from either county jails or the 3 regional or private prisons.
5. Likely releases take into account that roughly 20% would not be appropriate for early discharge.

(continued)

6. Saving is calculated based on staggered releases (i.e., 10 in week one, 10 in week two, 10 in week three and 10 in week four). This would eliminate 14,310 incarceration days per year.
7. There is no net general fund impact as there is projected to be a deficit within the Department of Corrections of nearly \$9 million in FY 2003. This projected savings would be used to help offset the projected deficit.
8. This savings would be ongoing and approximately the same in following years.

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

None

LONG-RANGE IMPACTS:

General fund savings of \$565,487 in FY 03 and a like savings could be anticipated in the future increasing approximately 2% annually with the increased cost per day per inmate.